Budgetary allocation for safe tourist destination

1367. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that arrival of foreign tourists is declining continuously for the last few years;

(b) if so, the foreign tourists visiting India during the last three years; the foreign exchange earned for the same period;

(c) whether the September, 11 incident has further affected the tourism sector; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to promote India as a safe tourist destination with budgetary allocations and the amount spent so far?

THE MINISTER OFTOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) The foreign tourist arrivals and the foreign exchange earned from tourism during the last three years are as follows:

Year	Tourist Arrivals (in million)	%change	Foreign exchange earnings (Rs. In crores)	%change
2000	2.65	6.7 -	14238	9.9
2001	2.54	4.2 -	14344	0.7
2002	2.36	6.9	14420	0.5

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Projecting India as a safe tourist destination is a continuous process and the strategy includes advertising in electronic, internet and print media, organising of workshops and seminars, inviting media personalities under the Department's hospitality programmes, etc. Out of Rs. 51.00 crores allocated for overseas campaign, advertising and publicity for the year 2002-03, an amount of Rs. 38.47 crores has been released so far.